Committee, which is chaired by the Minister of Environment and Forests. The meeting of the Indian Board for Wildlife was held on 13-3-1997 and 11 -7-1997 during the period referred to in the question.

Maintenance of Elephant Sanctuary at Chandaka

4327. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate steps are not being taken for proper maintenance of the Elephant Sanctuary at Chandaka near Bhubaneshwar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to protect the villagers living near that Sanctuary, as the elephants go on rampage and kill the people living in those villages?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) No. Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Chandaka sanctuary boundary extends over 173 km., out of which 66 km. was fenced with elephant proof trench and 64 km. with solar power fencing. Due to cyclone the electric fencing became non-effective and the e'ephant proof trench got silted. Steps have been taken by the Government for proper maintenance of Chandaka Sanctuary and for protection of the people living in nearby areas. These include regular monitoring of movement of elephants; enriching the degraded habitat by plantation of suitable species, renovation and laying of new elephant proof trenches with water passage, relocation of hamlets lying in the core area of the sanctuary and training of staff to deal with elephant depredation etc.

Bina Refinery Project

4328. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have pulled up the Gujarat Government for stalling the progress of Bharat Petroleum Corporation of India Ltd., Bina Refinery Project;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and